

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 COA-02 PM-07

SCI-06 DLOS-07 L-03 DOTE-00 AID-20 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

INRE-00 NSF-04 EA-11 EPA-04 CEQ-02 DRC-01 /133 W  
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O 051717Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO COMDT COGARD WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 154

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 5403

USCG FOR CAPTAIN WALLACE

SECSTATE PLEASE PASS TO NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, CI

SUBJECT: METULA SITREP 10

FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED BY THIS EMBASSY FROM  
COMMANDER ATKINSON, USCG, PUNTA ARENAS. SUBJECT SITREP  
IS QUOTED BELOW FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

"FM: CDR J.A. ATKINSON USCG PUNTA ARENAS  
TO: AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
PASS TO CMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC  
METULA SITREP TEN

1. S/S HARVELLA TO ATTEMPT SECOND OFFLOAD FROM METULA 5 SEPT.
2. CORRECT PREVIOUS REFERENCES TO JAPANESE TUG NORDZEE OR  
NORD ZEE TO READ NORTH SEA, PREVIUS INFORMATION CONFUSED.

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3. ALL ADAPTS EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL NOW ON METULA.

4. RESULTS OF SHORELINE SURVEY IN WHICH DR HANN PARTICIPATED  
ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. OIL ON BEACH HEAVIER THAN EXPECTED ON 1 SEPT 74 AVERAGE  
50 TO 75FT WIDE, TWO INCH DEEP, OF CHOCOLATE BROWN OIL WATER  
EMULSION OVER 25 MILES SURVEYED ESTIMATE TOTAL LENGTH  
SHORE AFFECTED 40 MILES, WILL ESTIMATE VOLUME OF OIL  
ON BEACH AFTER LAB ANALYSIS OF OIL WATER RATIO.

B. MAIN ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE APPEARS TO BE WATER FOWL WITH  
40 PENGUINS AND 150 CORMORANTS OBSERVED DEAD DURING SURVEY.

C. WIDE INTERTIDAL ZONE AFFECTED BECAUSE OF LARGE TIDAL RANGE  
ON SPRING TIDES.

5. INTERESTING ASPECT OF AERIAL SURVEY HAS BEEN MARKED  
DIFFERENCE OF APPEARANCE ON EACH FLIGHT, NOT ALWAYS DIMINISHING,  
DUE TO WINDS AND TIDES. CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF OIL IS ABOVE  
HIGHEST HIGH WATER MARK WHERE WIND-DRIVEN OIL OFTEN PILED  
FOUR INCHES DEEP.

6. GENERAL CONCERN OVER ANTICIPATED MIGRATION OF PENGUINS  
TO ISLANDS IN STRAIT STARTING ABOUT MID-SEPT TO EARLY OCT,  
NUMBERING IN TENS OF THOUSANDS.

7. DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD WITH ADM. ALLEN AS TO SCIENTIFIC  
ASPECTS OF POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO CLEAN-UP AND RESEARCH INTO  
ENVIRONMENTAL HARM. ADMIRAL ALLEN EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST  
IN A COOPERATIVE PROGRAM OF RESEARCH INTO FATE AND EFFECTS  
OF THIS SPILL OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD, CENTERED AROUND THE  
INSTITUTO DE LA PATAGONIA, AT PUNTA ARENAS. DR. HANN CAN  
FURNISH FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT.

8. DR HANN HOPES TO DEPART PUNTA ARENAS ON 6 SEPT (FOR G-DET).  
REQUEST ADVISE MRS. HANN MESSAGE ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED  
AT CERRO SOMBRERO, PETROLEUM CAMP, TIERRA DEL FUEGO.  
HOPE ARRIVE COLLEGE STATION 8 SEPT, BUT NOT SURE."  
POPPER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COSTS, SALVAGE, RESCUE OPERATIONS, CARGO SHIPS, OIL SPILLS  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** METULA SITREP 10 FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED BY THIS EMBASSY FROM  
**TAGS:** PLOS, EWWT, EFIN, CI, US  
**To:** COMDT COGARD WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005